

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8164

INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMISSION USBERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PEPR, IR, GE

SUBJECT: SHAH VISIT TO THE GDR

REFS: (A) BERLIN 5839, (B) TEHRAN 8497 (NOTAL)

1. WE TOO ARE INTRIGUED BY PLANNED VISIT OF SHAH TO GDR
AND HOW GDR PLANS TO HANDLE DELICATE BALANCE OF CULTIVAT-
ING THE SHAH AND SUPPORTING THE TUDEH PARTY. IN THAT
CONNECTION WE NOTE THAT THE GDR OFFICIAL PARTY PAPER,
NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, IN ITS EDITION OF SEPTEMBER 7, CARRIED
THE TEXT OF A TELEGRAM FROM IRAJ ESKANDARY, FIRST
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SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE TUDEH PARTY
OF IRAN, CONGRATULATING THE GDR ON THE MISSION OF GDR
COSMONAUT SIEGMUND JAEHN. THE MESSAGE APPEARS PROMINENTLY
IN THE SECTION OF THE PAPER DEVOTED TO FOREIGN NEWS.

2. THERE CAN BE LITTLE DOUBT THAT ITS APPEARANCE ON THE
DAY FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE VISIT OF THE SHAH

TO EAST GERMANY WAS DELIBERATE AND MEANT TO INDICATE TO EAST GERMAN PARTY MEMBERS THAT THE TUDEH PARTY REMAINS IN THE GOOD GRACES OF THE SED AND THAT THE VISIT OF THE SHAH DOES NOT SIGNIFY A CHANGE IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE TUDEH PARTY. THE GDR PRESS HAS IN GENERAL VIRTUALLY IGNORED THE CURRENT DOMESTIC DISTURBANCES IN IRAN, FEATURING ONLY BRIEF FACTUAL REPORTS ON THE ABADAN CINEMA FIRE AND ON THE CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT.

3. IN PUBLISHING THE MESSAGE FROM THE TUDEH PARTY, THE GDR IS FOLLOWING A PRACTICE WHICH IT HAS USED IN SIMILAR CASES BEFORE. WHILE THE GDR ACTIVELY SEEKS TO CULTIVATE TIES WITH NON-SOCIALIST COUNTRIES SUCH AS IRAN AND THE PHILIPPINES IT IS CAREFUL TO MAKE CLEAR DOMESTICALLY THAT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT EAST GERMAN SUPPORT FOR "PROGRESSIVE" FORCES IS IN ANY WAY DIMINISHED. POLANSKY

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Message Attributes

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